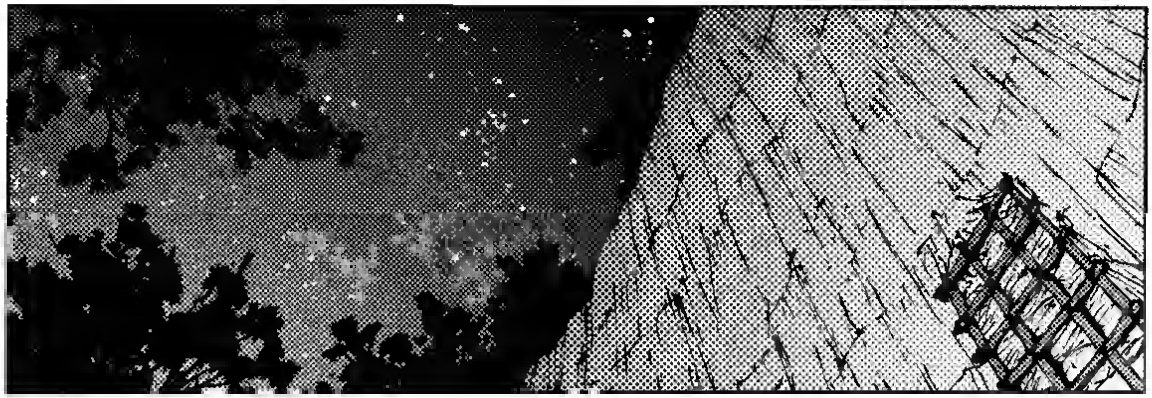
DANGER 26

HOW YOU FEELING?
MMM, NOT TOO GOOD...
OKAY... LET'S MEASURE YOUR TEMPERATURE.
HERE.
YOU HAVE TO EAT SOMETHING, EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT THAT HUNGRY.

...
MMM, YOUR FEVER'S DEFINITELY GONE DOWN.
TRY SOME OF THE RICE PORRIDGE I MADE.
I GUESS I GAVE MYSELF AWAY.
HEY, DON'T "GREAT" ME!
ONCE YOU'VE HAD SOMETHING TO EAT, AND TAKEN YOUR MEDICINE, I WANT YOU TO GET SOME REST.
MM. AH...
BUT I GUESS WE'LL STILL HAVE TO KEEP YOU OFF SCHOOL TODAY.
JUST GET SOME REST.
GREAT!
UUH...
UUH...
I KNOW WHAT SHE SAID BUT...

THE BOY HAD NOT WORRIED ABOUT CATCHING ANY SORT OF ILLNESS FROM THE RAT BITE.
HE BELIEVED THAT THE SAXIFRAGE HAD CURED HIS INJURY.
AND THAT HIS BODY HAD RECOVERED FROM HIS POOR, STRESSED STATE.
HE FELT INDESCRIBABLY FATIGUED, AND WAS SUFFERING HIDEOUS PAIN IN HIS JOINTS.
UH... UH...
MY BODY ACHES.
CAN'T MOVE...
AAH... THIS IS AWFUL...
THE BOY HAD BEEN STRUCK BY ILLNESS WHILE ALONE.
HE WAS NOW UNDER INCREASING ATTACK FROM UNEASE AND FEAR.
YET DESPITE HIS LACK OF CONCERN, HE HAD ALREADY BEEN STRUCK BY ILLNESS.

IT WAS LIKE THIS, UPON THE DISCOVERY OF HIS OWN NAIEVITY, THAT THE BOY FELT UNBEARABLE ANGER AT HIS OWN IGNORANCE, AND INABILITY TO DO ANYTHING.
WHAT'S UP WITH ME...
SHIT, SHIT, SHIIIT...
UUUH...
DON'T SCREW WITH ME...
WHAT IS THIS...



FRIDAY...?

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ポツ
AH...
AH...

パク
パク

I HAVE TO EAT SOMETHING.
RIGHT...
HAVE..
TO EAT SOME-THING...
OW...
ガツガツ
ングッ...

NO WAY AM I GONNA LOSE TO SOME RAT DISEASE...
GOTTA ENERGIZE...
HAVE TO EAT...
HAVE TO EAT...
ズルズル
GOTTA DRIVE IT OUT...